AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 15 and 20 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

   receiving requirements for a plurality of modules;

   determining an inter-module dependency tree, the inter-module dependency tree being based on the requirements; and

   modifying a module function in accordance with the inter-module dependency tree.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising associating a configuration parameter with an inter-module dependency in said inter-module dependency tree.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising storing a default value for a configuration parameter.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said determining an inter-module dependency tree comprises associating a module command with an inter-module dependency.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein associating a module command with an inter-module dependency comprises determining a phase for a command of a module.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said modifying a module function comprises determining a command script based on a command association with an inter-module dependency.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said modifying a module function comprises associating a command of one module with a command of another module based upon an inter-module dependency.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein associating a command of one module with a command of another module comprises associating a command of one module with a command of another module based upon a phase identification.

9.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~wherein said modifying a module function comprises initializing a module function~~ further comprising initializing a module using the inter-module dependency tree.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said modifying a module function comprises reconfiguring a module function.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said modifying a module function comprises shutting down a module function.

12.   (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:
       a system controller, the system controller comprising circuitry to store an
              inter-module dependency tree, the inter-module dependency tree being
              based on requirements for a plurality of modules, the system controller to

modify a module function in accordance with the inter-module

dependency tree; and

a configuration manager coupled to said system controller.

13. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising a current

configuration database coupled to said configuration manager, the current

configuration database containing one or more configurations for the plurality of

modules that are not retained when the apparatus is initialized.

14. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising a permanent

configuration database coupled to said configuration manager via a command line

interface, the permanent configuration database containing one or more

configurations that are retained when the system is initialized.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said system controller

further comprises circuitry to modify a module function in accordance with an

inter-module dependency tree.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said configuration manager

comprises circuitry to receive a configuration parameter change request.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said configuration manager

comprises circuitry to modify a module function in accordance with a

configuration parameter change request.

19.   (Currently amended) A system, comprising:

a network component comprising a system controller coupled to a configuration

manager; ~~and~~

a component coupled with the system controller to store an inter-module

dependency tree, the inter-module dependency tree being based on

requirements for a plurality of modules, the system controller to modify a

module function in accordance with the inter-module dependency tree;

and

a station coupled to said network component.

20.   (Cancelled)

21.   (Currently amended) The system of claim 19, wherein said node further

comprises a permanent configuration parameter database coupled to the

configuration manager via a command line interface, the permanent configuration

database containing one or more configurations that are maintained when the

system is rebooted.

22.   (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said station comprises a server to

forward a transaction via said network component.

23.   (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said station comprises a management

workstation to configure said network component.

24.   (Currently amended) A machine-readable medium containing instructions, which

when executed by a machine, cause said machine to perform operations,

comprising:

receiving requirements for a plurality of modules;

determining an inter-module dependency tree, the inter-module dependency tree

being based on the requirements; and

modifying a module function in accordance with the inter-module dependency

tree.

25.   (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein said determining

an inter-module dependency tree comprises associating a module command with

an inter-module dependency.

26.   (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein said modifying a

module function comprises determining a command script based on a command

association with an inter-module dependency.

27.   (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein said modifying a

module function comprises associating a command of one module with a

command of another module based upon an inter-module dependency.

28.   (Currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein said

modifying a module function comprises initializing a module function further

comprising initializing a module using the inter-module dependency tree.

29.   (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein said modifying a module function comprises reconfiguring a module function.

30.   (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein said modifying a module function comprises shutting down a module function.